

Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. B-4407

Magi No.

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic 305 West Franklin Street

and/or common Maryland Square Restaurant

**2. Location**

street & number 305 W. Franklin Street \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Baltimore \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district Seventh

state Maryland county Baltimore

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	___ not applicable	___ no	___ military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: restaurant

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mary Anagnostou

street & number 4512 Valley View Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Baltimore state and zip code MD 21206

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds Baltimore City Courthouse 3992

street & number 100 N. Calvert Street, Room 610 folio 793

city, town Baltimore state MD

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>	<b>19th cent</b>	<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good 1920s	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved    date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Resource Count: 1

This circa 1926 restaurant is in a substantially altered late 19th-century building. The one-story enframed window wall design restaurant faces north on West Franklin Street and abuts a partywall structure to the west and an alley (State Street) to the east. The Franklin Street frontage is 30-5" and the alley frontage is 80'.

The facade is covered with black vitrolite panels framing a glass central entrance and small flanking display windows. The windows are divided into four squares by metal mutins. The glass door is also set in a metal surround. A fluted aluminum cornice runs across the flat roof. Fabric awnings are suspended over the windows and door. A plastic sign advertises the name of the restaurant.

The alley facade is laid in red brick. The first story has two bricked-in windows with wood lintels in the north side and a parged door with stone sill at the far south side. The south end has four cellar windows with wood lintels. The boxed wood cornice is set above iron tie rods, indicating the building was once taller.

The south wall is laid in red brick with door in the west wide and two high bricked-in windows in the east side.

The interior of the restaurant is divided into two long bays, with the food preparation area is boxed in to the west and the dining booths to the east. The walls are covered with highly varnished, yellow stained wood sheets. Above a "coatrail" that runs along the walls the sheets if wood siding are replaced by mock wood panelling. The booths are also constructed of the same yellow and varnished wood. The table tops are modern.

## 8. Significance

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B-4407

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect	unknown
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D		
and/or		
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G		
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local		

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This building is an interesting amalgam of several different periods of architectural style and stages in the neighborhood's development. At its core, the building appears to date to the mid-nineteenth century. Due to the dramatic lopping off of the top stories and Art Deco alterations to the first story, the only remaining evidence lies along the alley. The brick work and fenestration patterns are compatible with a mid-nineteenth-century date of a dwelling or combination shop-house. Certainly, this date and building type would be in accord with the development of the area.

Architectural historian Richard Longstreth writes that "the gradual abandonment of the shop-house as the dominant form of commercial architecture was due to the ever-increasing demands for trade and professional services along with a corresponding increase in land values, all of which fostered the design of buildings used entirely for commercial purposes."<sup>1</sup> It is not clear when this building's upper stories were lopped off, although the reason is probably deterioration. By the 1920s, however, a commercial mode of expression was melded onto the facade of this shortened building.

The facade is a classic example of an Art Deco shopfront. This facade shows how vitrolite could be used to create a shiny, slick, even antiseptic front. The vitrolite panels are laid in clearly articulated squares, not surprising in a style that emphasized geometric forms.

Inside is a rare example of a pre-World War Two restaurant interior, and for the fact that it is one of the few buildings in the commercial district whose interior has not been completely obliterated by remodeling. The construction of a restaurant indicates that the neighborhood in the 1920s had enough draw to attract an evening crowd, perhaps due to the theaters on Howard, Eutaw and Fayette streets. (See also Kruger's Restaurant at 21-23 North Howard Street). The restaurant is still in business.

<sup>1</sup> Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street, pp. 24, 29.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-4407

Richard Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street (Washington: Preservation Press, 1987).

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Baltimore East Quad

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diane Shaw, Architectural Historianorganization CHAP, Room 1037date December 22, 1991street & number 417 E. Fayette Streettelephone 301-396-4866city or town Baltimorestate MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCL  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
301-514-7600

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA**

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization:  
Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:  
Agricultural-Industrial Transition, 1815-1870  
Modern Period, 1930-present

Historic Period Themes:  
Architecture  
Economics

Resource Type:  
Building

Historic Environment:  
Urban

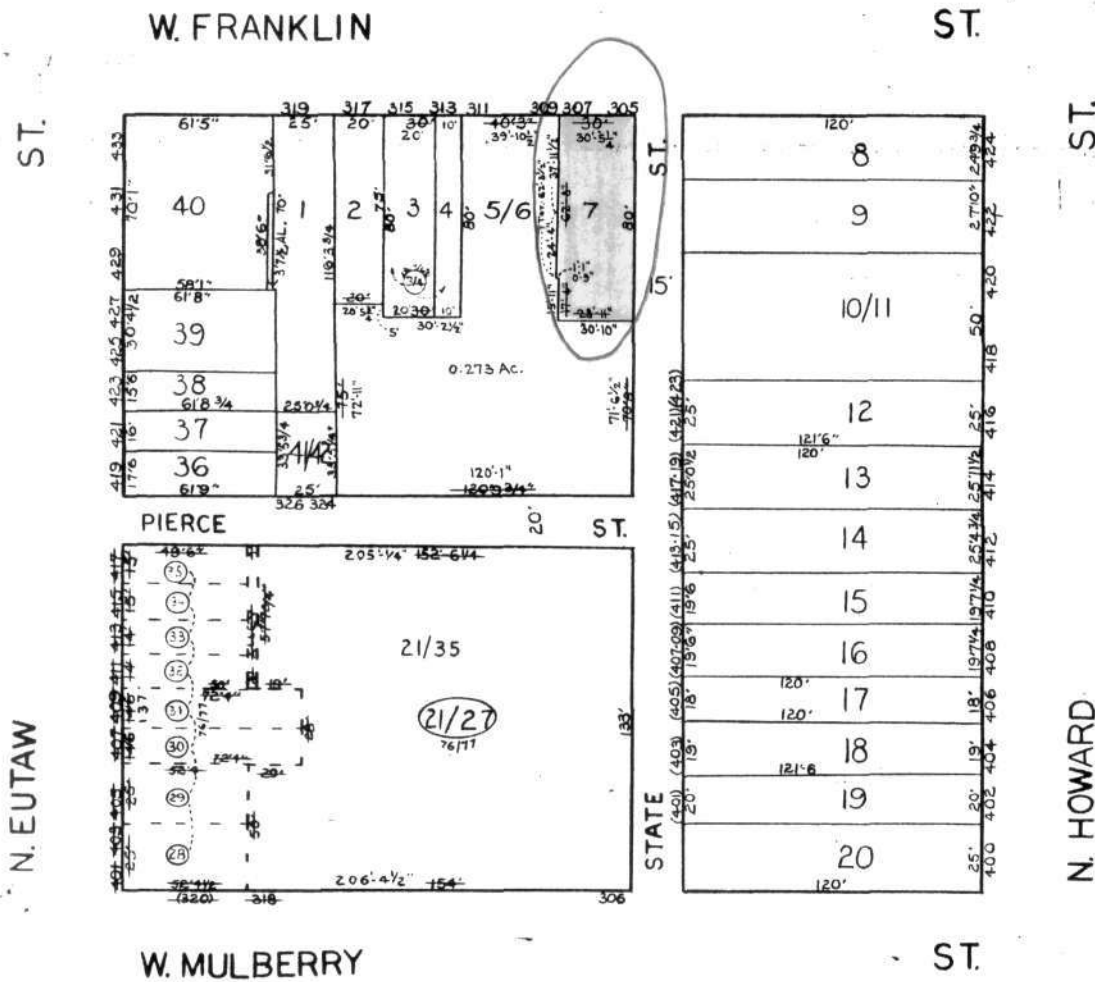
Historic Function and Use:

Residential, then commercial

Known Design Source:  
None

## REVISIONS

Lot 3/4 DIV PER DEED C.S.H. 9830  
 LOT 21/35 PER O.O.; C.S.H. 77-044  
 Lots 5/6 & 7 Cor. Per Deeds; C.S.H. 81-254.



CED BY P.W.

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## NOTICE

THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED  
 FOR UNDER ARTICLE 76(d) OF THE CITY CHARTER  
 IT IS COMPILED FROM TITLE AND OTHER  
 SOURCES AND IS NOT AN AUTHENTIC SURVEY.

CITY OF BALTIMORE  
 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION

WARD 4 SECTION 2  
 BLOCK 562

SCALE 1"=50' DATE NOV. 1966



GIS data Courtesy of  
the City of Baltimore, MOIT/EGIS





B-4407

305 W Franklin St.

Baltimore MD

Diane Shaw

8/91

Maryland SHPO

NE Elevation, facade

1/2



B-4407

305 W. Franklin St.

Baltimore MD

Drane Shaw

8/91

Maryland SHPO

Interior, facing south

2/2